Great Lakes (HHS Region 5)

Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Risk Factors for Youth Substance Misuse

Kris Gabrielsen, MPH January 9, 2024

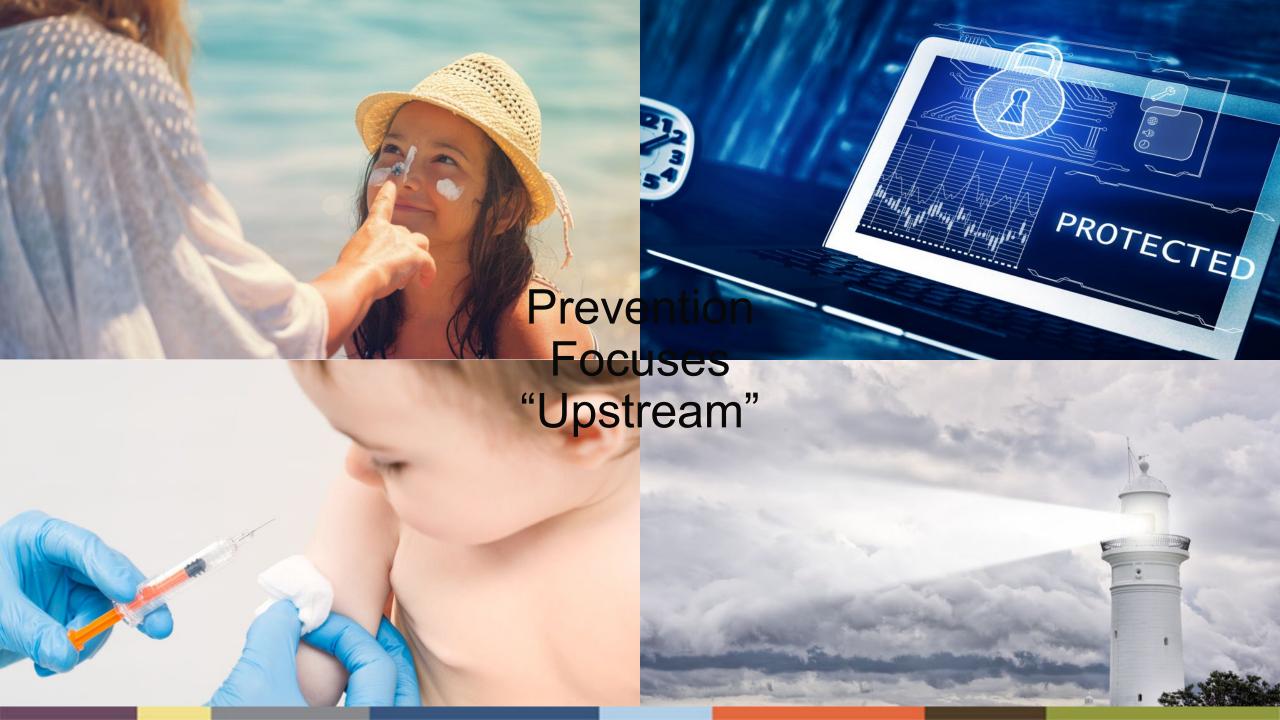
Introduce Yourself in the Chat

Our Path for Today



Participant Workbook

Introduction



Prevention

The *proactive* process of empowering individuals and systems to meet the challenges of life events and transitions by creating and reinforcing conditions that promote healthy behaviors and lifestyles.

But... What Do We Do? And How Do It?

What Is Often Done?

Prevention gets ~4% of federal drug demand reduction funding. Are we spending wisely?

How Can We Maximize Our Effectiveness?

Reduce risk factors that increase the likelihood of substance misuse.

protective factors that buffer the impact of risk factors.



Quiz: Pre-Test

Risk Factors

Factors that increase the likelihood of substance misuse occurring



The Science of Risk Factors

Video: The Science of Risk Factors

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZJs-3mG3ps0

Risk Factor List We Will Use Today

Risk Factors for Adolescent Problem Behavior	Substance	Delinquency	Teen Pregnancy	School Dropout	Violence	Depression & Anxiety
Community						
Availability of Drugs	•				•	
Availability of Firearms						
Community Laws and Norms Favorable Toward Drug Use, Firearms, and Crime	•	•			•	
Media Portrayals of the Behavior					•	
Transitions and Mobility		•		•		
Low Neighborhood Attachment and Community Disorganization		•			•	
Extreme Economic Deprivation		•		•		
Family						
Family History of the Problem Behavior						
Family Management Problems	•			•		
Family Conflict	•		•		•	
Favorable Parental Attitudes and Involvement in the Problem Behavior		•				
School						
Academic Failure Beginning in Late Elementary School						
Lack of Commitment to School			•	•		
Individual/Peer	i					
Early and Persistent Antisocial Behavior						
Rebelliousness						
Gang Involvement						
Friends Who Engage in the Problem Behavior						
Favorable Attitudes Toward the Problem Behavior						
Early Initiation of the Problem Behavior		•				
Constitutional Factors						



Criteria for Inclusion on Risk Factor List





Be a Cautious Consumer!

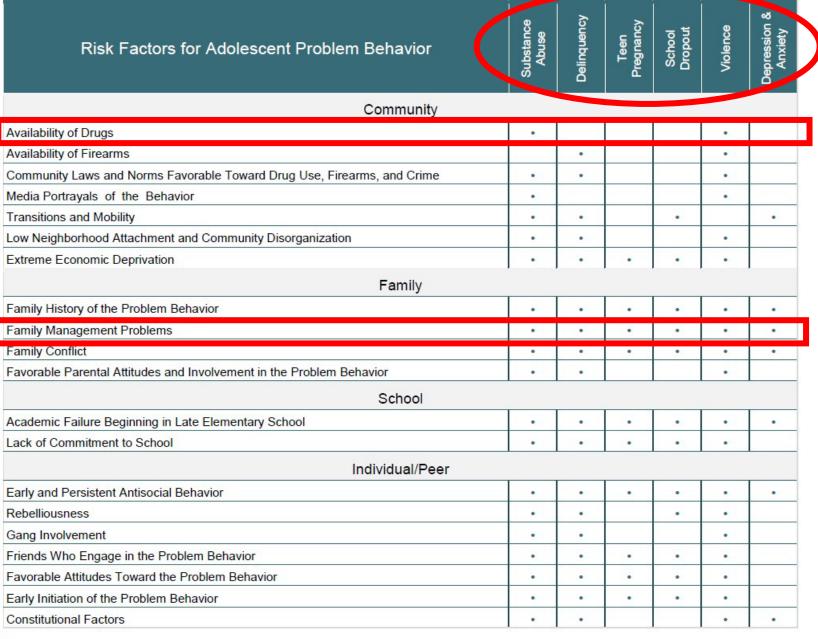
Keep in Mind

Risk factors exist in multiple contexts

Risk factors are not causal

Impact of risk factors is exponential

Shared Risk Factors





Pop Quiz #1

Risk factors...

- Determine if someone will use drugs
- b. Increase the likelihood of drug use
- c. Exist only at an individual level
- d. Are causally related substance abuse



Community Domain Risk Factors



Availability of Drugs

Two Types of Availability





Community Laws and Norms Favorable Toward Drug Use





Social Norms are Reflected in Our Laws



Media Portrayals of Drug Use

Increase likelihood of subsequent substance use

Content is the new tobacco commercial



Video from Truth Initiative

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CfGqQ_B-688&t=1s

Transitions and Mobility

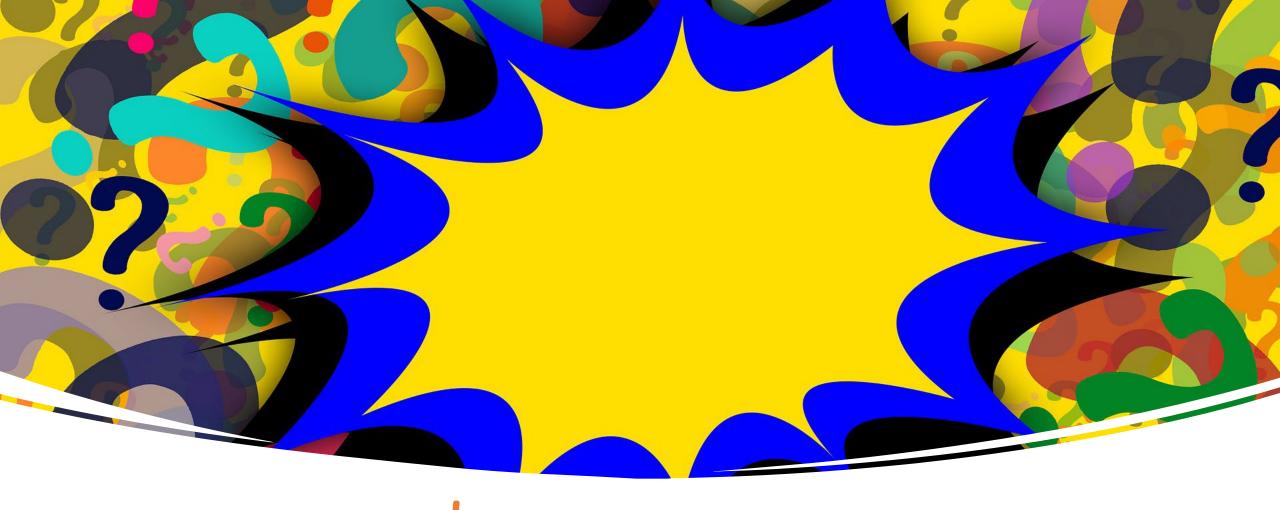


Low Neighborhood Attachment and Community Disorganization



Extreme Economic Deprivation

Mixed research results regarding extreme poverty *alone* being a risk factor for substance misuse



Pop Quiz #2

True or False:

Reducing the prevalence of community domain risk factors in your community can decrease the likelihood of youth substance misuse.

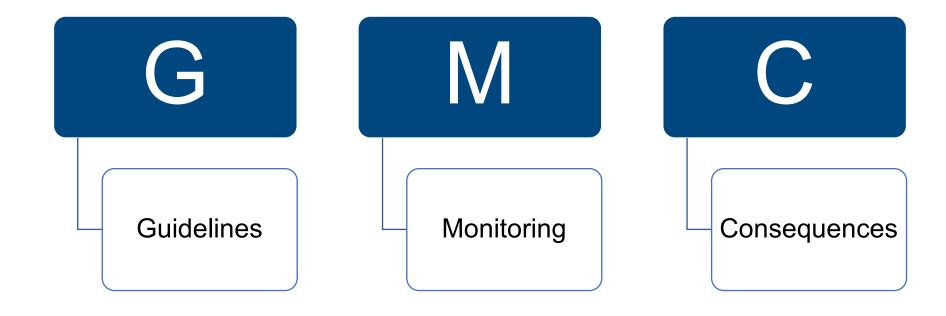
Family Domain Risk Factors

Family History of Drug Use





Family Management Problems



Family Conflict

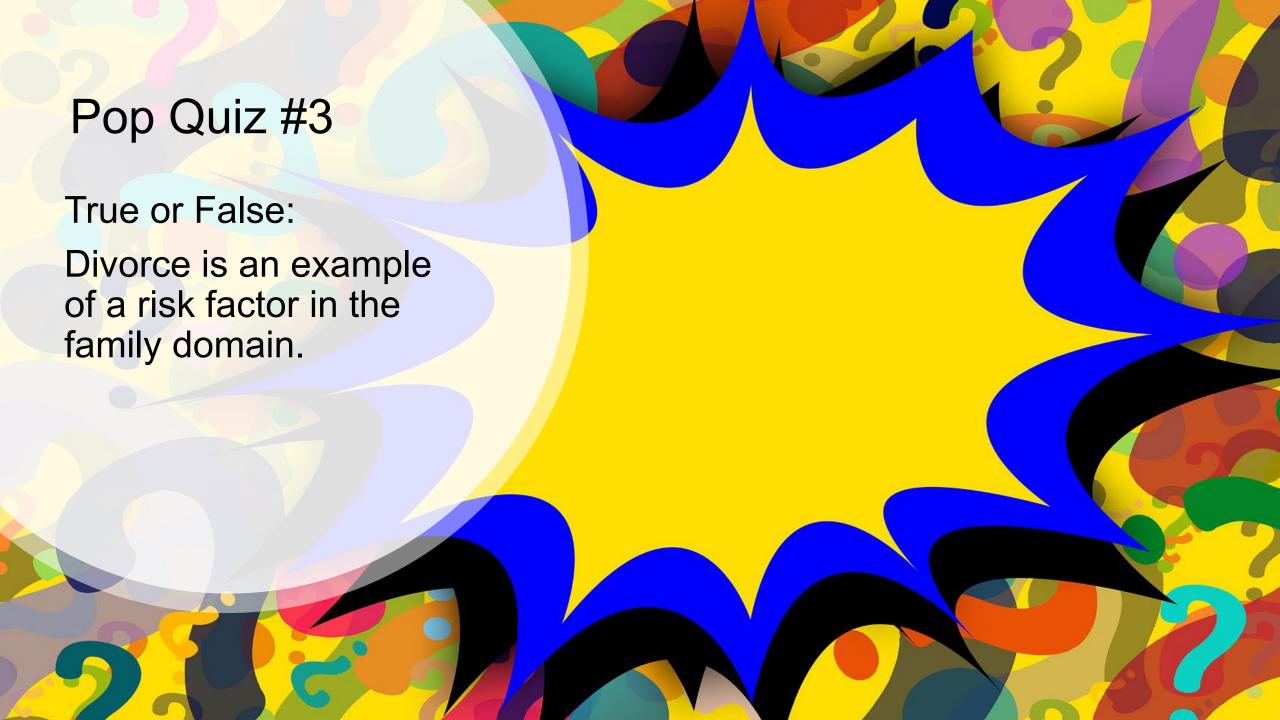


Favorable **Parental Attitudes** Toward Drug Use

Involving children in their own use

"Kids will be kids"

"They are going to do it anyway, so they mind as well do it at home"



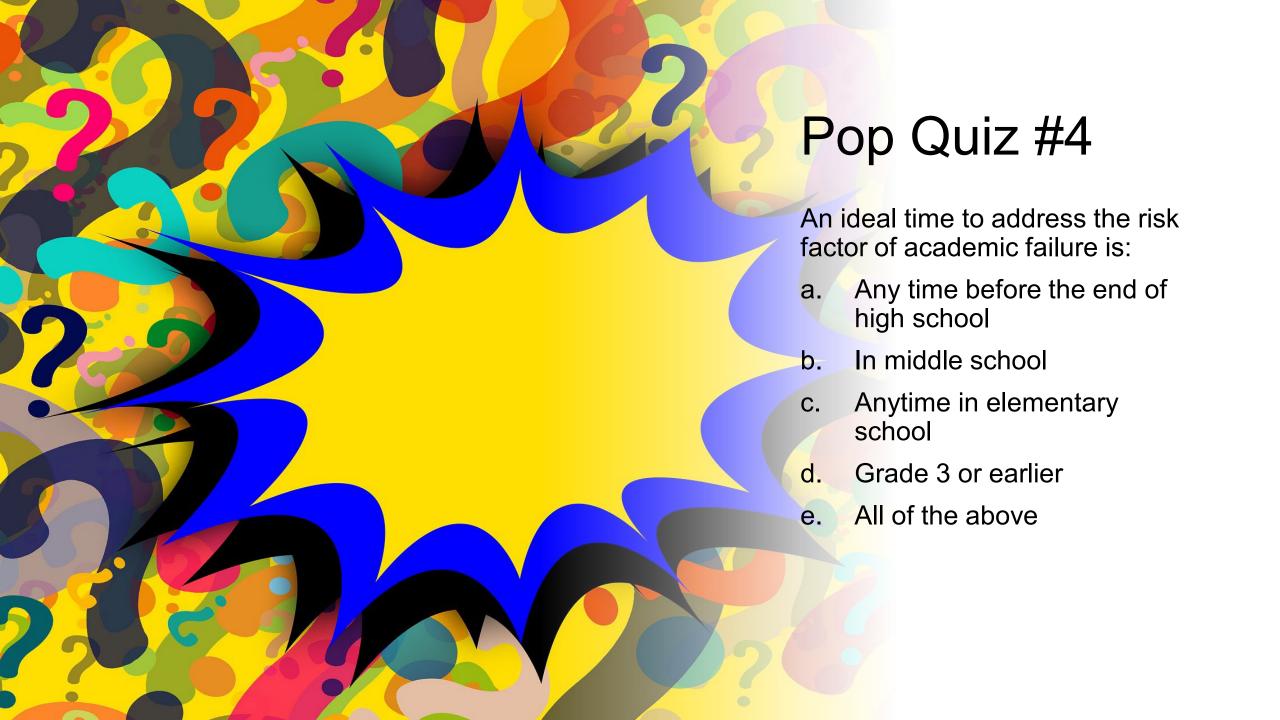
School Domain Risk Factors

Academic Failure Beginning Late Elementary School

- Falling behind for any reason grades 4-6 or later
- Label of failure gets "stuck"
- Before grade 4, time to recover







Individual/Peer Domain Risk Factors

Early and Persistent Anti-social Behavior



Boys in K-3

Boys and girls

Truancy, shoplifting, fighting, etc.

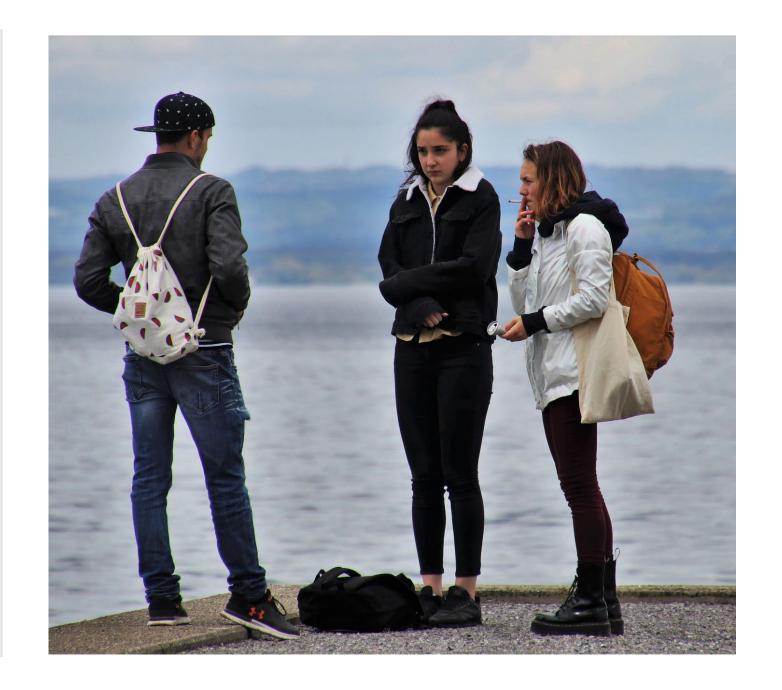
Rebelliousness



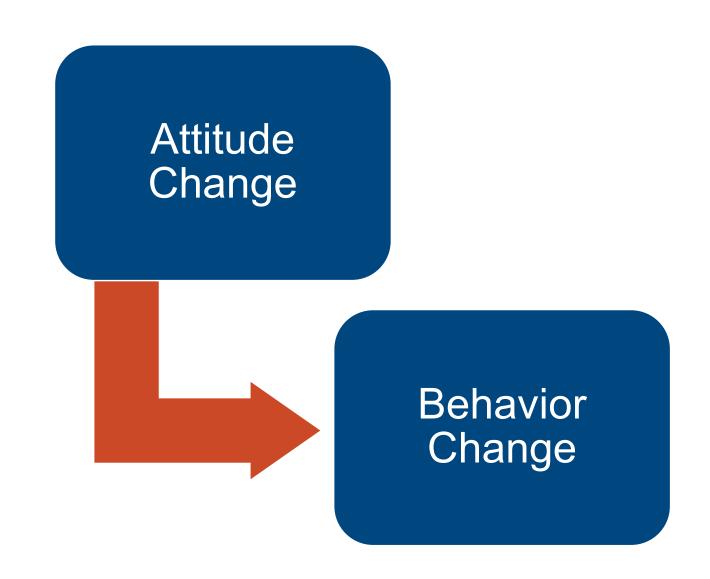
Gang Involvement

More likely to use alcohol and/or other drugs and to engage in delinquent or violent behavior if involved with gangs

Peers Who Use



Favorable Attitudes Toward Drug Use



Early Initiation of Drug Use





Constitutional Factors

Pop Quiz #5

The risk factor that is the strongest predictor of youth substance use is:

- a. Family history
- b. Availability of drugs
- c. Low commitment to school
- d. Friends who use drugs



Don't Be Fooled!

Not a Risk Factor:
Boredom



Not a Risk Factor: Divorce

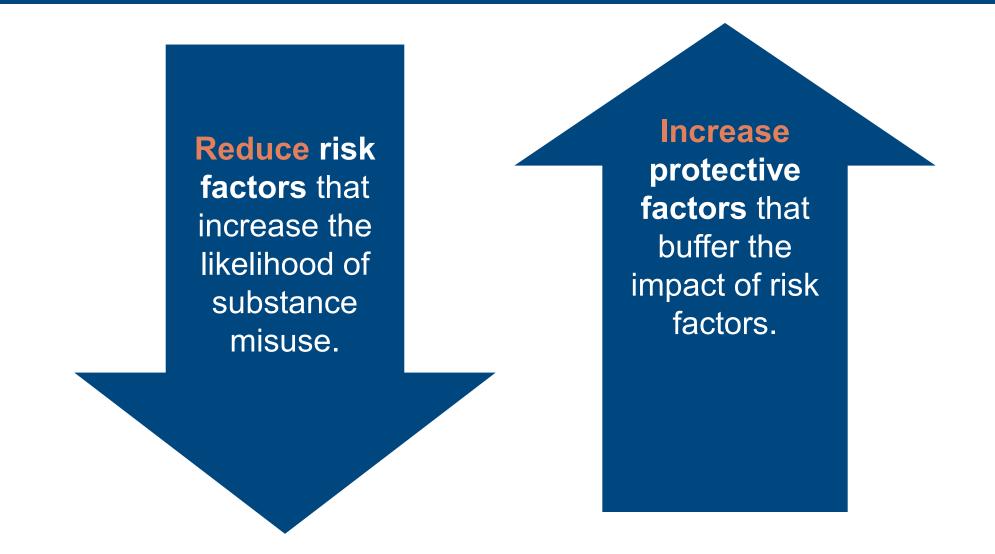
Not a Risk Factor: Low Self-esteem



Quiz: Post-Test

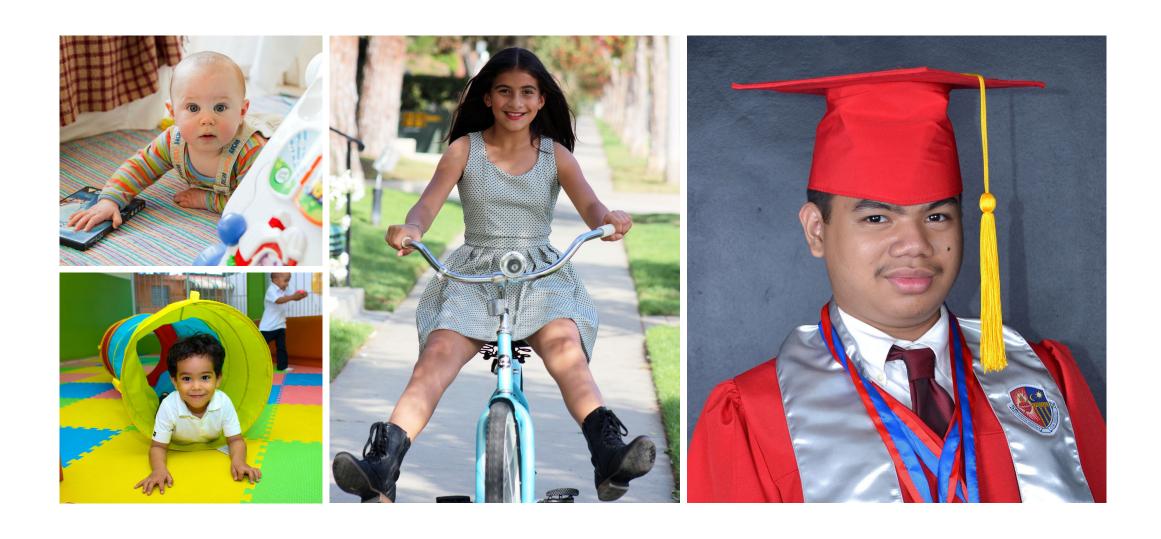
Take Action

Just a Reminder...How We Prevent Substance Misuse



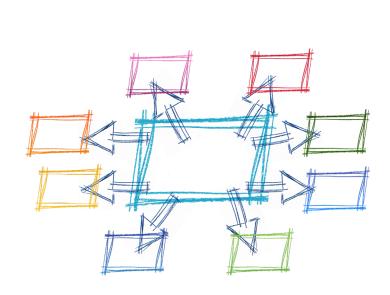
Risk Factors and the Strategic Prevention Framework? Sustainability and Cultural Competence Implementation Planning

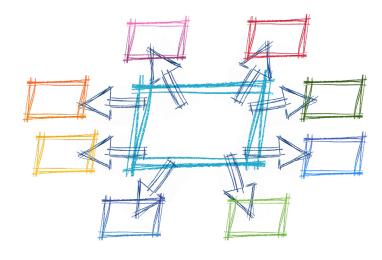
Address at Appropriate Developmental Stages



Comprehensive Efforts Needed

Address multiple risk factors with multiple strategies while increasing protective factors





Implement Strategies Shown To Reduce Your Priority Risk Factor(s)

https://tinyurl.com/PTTConline

Guide to Online Registries for Substance Misuse Prevention Evidence-based Programs and Practices





Possible Next Steps

- √ "Water cooler" chat with colleague
- ✓ Examine risk factors list used by your organization
- ✓ Identify priority risk factors from your needs assessment data
- ✓ Explore prevention strategy to see if addresses one or more priority risk factor(s)
- ✓ Watch recording of Building Protective Factors webinar
- ✓ Explore evidence-based registry using risk factors as search variable



What is Your Commitment to Putting this information into Action TODAY?

- What will you commit to doing within 24 hours?
- https://tinyurl.com/RFaction2

Closing Thoughts

Upcoming Great Lakes PTTC Trainings

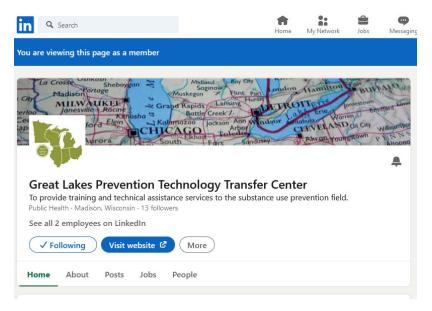
https://tinyurl.com/GLPTTCevents

- Deep Dive into Prevention Ethics (Pre-requisite: Foundation in Prevention Ethics)
 First Thursday of each month, January through June, 9:30-11 CT
- Make the Magic Happen in a Meeting: Meeting Facilitation Skills (limited spots available)
 February 8, 1-4 CT
- **Drug Trends** (Registration opening soon) February 15, 1-2:30 CT (New date!)
- Virtual SAPST (enrollment limited to Region 5; open until filled)
 February 26, 29, March 4 and 11
- Substance Use and Other Risk Factors for Gun Violence: Prevention and Intervention Strategies March 12, 12-1:30 CT
- Prevention Works! And a Call to Action March 20, 12-1:30 CT
- Media Literacy 101 for Substance Misuse Prevention Practitioners
 June 20, 1-2:30 CT

Like and Follow Us for the Latest Info!

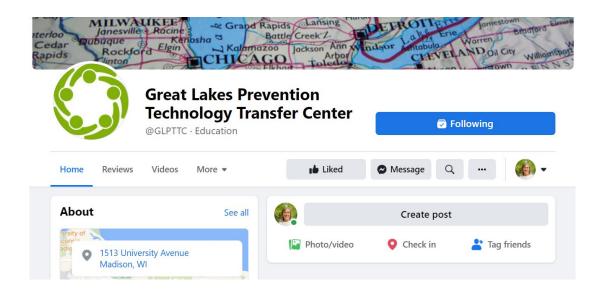
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Please Complete the Evaluation Form

https://ttc-gpra.org/P?s=320055







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Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Thank You!

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 Understanding Risk and Protective Factors. https://ctb.ku.edu/en/table-of-contents/analyze/choose-and-adapt-community-interventions/risk-and-protective-factors/main
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